



# **Health Policy, Power and Politics**

## **Sociological Insights**

# Praise for *Health Policy, Power and Politics*

‘Professor Calnan is very well qualified to write on health policy, power and politics in the UK, in which he has a national and international reputation. This book is solidly grounded on his recent teaching and distinctively and revealingly adopts a sociological perspective in addressing several key facets of the UK policy agenda. It provides important insights for all those interested in this agenda in a range of cognate fields – from professionalism and public engagement to mental health policy and social inequalities.’

—**Mike Saks**, Emeritus Professor, University of Suffolk

*Health Policy, Power and Politics* is an excellent book ideal for students undertaking health policy modules. It is effectively a course text in its own right, one that clearly draws on Michael Calnan’s years of teaching, researching and writing on and around this topic. Indeed, this strength also makes the book a most useful resource for the post-graduate student and researcher.

What is particularly distinctive about this book is its critical sociological approach, one that is well grounded in recent research. It gives comprehensive coverage and analysis of all the key challenges for health policy particularly relating to the English NHS. The book’s importance, for me, is its clear-headed, critical and theoretically based analysis of policies that are too often treated too prescriptively; whether we are talking about hospital performance, professional governance, patient choice, or digitalization, or any of the other topics in this text.

While predominately NHS focused the book does place this institution within an international context, for example, critically comparing NHS performance internationally. This is no mere ‘add-on’ but integral to the book’s review and analysis of health policy, power and politics today.

Given the fast changing policy environment we are now in, I would expect a revised, updated version will be needed fairly quickly, certainly following the 2019 general election. But even so, the essential analyses and evidence provided will, if anything, be likely to become of greater pertinence than before.’

—**Mike Dent**, Emeritus Professor, Staffordshire University

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Michael Calnan,  
January 2020



